
Chlorosis

Delicate girls who are approaching the age of womanhood are usually subject to Delicate girls who are approaching the age of womannood are usually subject to this disease. They are pale because the blood is weak and watery. Their complexion has a sickly greenish cast which gives the disease it name. They have no vitality and if exposed to any unusual excitement, excessive labor or cold dampness are liable to contract some disease that will disastrously effect their whole future lives. It is a most critical period. The right remedy to relieve this condition and bring back the rosy hue of health is

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ON SOME OBJECTIONS TO COMPULSORY EDUCATION

By G. W. Cunningham, Department of Philosophy, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont.

have watched with growing interest ourselves on our freedom, and we and pride the advances she has made along educational lines during the last ten years. The educational growth of the county during this decade has been remarkable. It is a record of which every lover of the county, both in the state and out of it, may well be proud. I wish to take this occasion to express the satisfaction which I have experienced in following this growth and the hope that the future may show even more marked evidences of educational expansion. That such a hope is not in vain the present wholesome interest in educational affairs is ample gurantee.

I am also especially pleased to see that there is a growing interest throughout the state in the problem of compulsory education. To my mind, this is one of the most hopeful signs for the future welfare of South Carolina. I am firmly convinced that a compulsory education law, state-wide in its application, is what South Carolina needs above everything else just now. Holding this conviction, I deem it timely and appropriate, now that I have been asked by Super'ntendent Pitts to make a contribution to this educational issue of the Advertiser, to deal as vigorously as I can with some objections that are from time to time raised in the state against the compulsory education system.

Presumably there are few individuals in Laurens county, or in the state of South Carolina, who would seriously question the value of education in some form. All would doubtless admit that at least elementary education is of the utmost importance in the life of the state. Certainly, no one whose opinion could be regarded as having any weight at all would maintain the contrary. Therefore I shall consume no space with an argument for the value of primary and secondary schools. Their value is sun-clear and is generally admitted as a mater of course.

But not all seem to be willing to admit that enforced attendance upon these schools is desirable. And this is not without apparent justification. One may feel that education is extremely important and yet at the same time conscientiously maintain that compulsory education is to be avoided. It may be very well said, even by one who believes education is essential to the welfare of the state, that here should be no law compelling all children between certain ages to attend school during a specified numper of days each year. There are certain objections to the system of compulsory education which possess weight even in the minds of some of those who are firmly convinced ing? that education is basic to the well. being of the body politic. Let us see what weight they really have.

One objection that is commonly ed States. Did we not fight to the does. death at Bunker Hill for our liberty? There are two types of freedom, Did we not go through frost and and they are as different as day and fire at Valley Forge and Yorktown night. The one conception has absoin order to win our freedom? And lutely nothing to do with the other. shall we now pass a law taking from In the first place, there is a concepthe individual the very sacred pos- tion of freedom which makes it consession for which our fore-fathers sist in obedience to law. This is suffered and died? Why, compulsory education is directly counter to the limited freedom. It is the freedom spirit of the Revolution! Away with it, away with it! We will none citizen of the United States of Ameriof it! Give us liberty, or give us ca. He is free to go where he

sion sounds hard and grating to ed to receive him. It makes no dif.

***************************** As a native of Laurens county I | American ears. We naturally pride justly resent outside interference in our private affairs. We do not want anybody to pry into our own busi-We will fight, if need be, to preserve our independence, both as individuals and as a nation. We may be coaxed, but we can never be compelled! And this is right; it is as it should be. This concession weyou, the reader, and I, the writer, of this paperMmay legitimately make to our vanity: it is a species of vanity of which we have a right to be

> But all of this is no argument against a compulsory education law. It does not bear upon the real question at all. Have you ever stopped to think that all law is compulsory? What! All law is compulsory? Certainly. There is not a law on the statute books of South Carolina that is not a compulsory law. Else, why the penalties attached? Most assuredly, we have compulsory honesty, cumpulsory purity, compulsory justice, compulsory benevolence! Then why not compulsory education? It is no more un-American than any other law. If we can be true and genuine Americans, if we can retain our vaunted freedom, and yet at the same time enact laws restraining homicide and stealing and gambling and selling intoxicating beverages and cruelty to dumb brutes, then where does the inconsistency creep in when we enact a law restraining the worst of all weaknesses, namely, ignorance? O consistency, thou art in every truth a jewel.

> Let us no longer delude ourselves. nor permit ourselves to be longer deluded by this sort of nonsense. It is time for us to wake up, and see things straight! Freedom is a word to conjure with: how many crimes in the history of the human race have been committed in its sacred name! In the past, rivers of blood have been shed in the name of freedom-ineradicable blotches upon the fair page of history. And at the present the word has lost nothing of its witchery. Let a rattling politician harangue us for an hour, lustily proclaiming himself as the champion and the sole champion, of our freedom we are ready to rise in arms and and follow wheresoever he leads Let him but shout in stentorian we throw up our hats in honor of the far-seeing statesman who has so effectually safe-guarded our liberties. For our freedom must be precaricature of what happens in political campaigns; it is a simple state ment of the fasts. Is it not high time for us to call a halt, and do a little thinking, serious and sober think-

Now, in all candor, what is freedom? Is it really worth having examine some of these objections and If you will consider for a moment, you will see that the answer to the second of these questions depends raised in opposition to compulsory entirely upon the answer to the first: education is that it is un-American. for, obviously, before we can tell For the law to step n and say to whether a thing is worth having we parents that they must surrender must know what it is. But, is it their claims upon their child for a possible that freedom should mean certain number of days each year is, anything but freedom. Certainly. so the objection runs, contrary to the Freedom may mean just the opposite spirit of the Constitution of the Unit- of freedom, and not infrequently

what may, for convenience be called which characterizes the law-abiding pleases, within certain limits, and to You have heard an argument, have do what he pleases, within certain you not? I have. As a matter of limits. This we usually mean by fact, it is the argument which is most freedom. You will not fail to notice, generally made against the compul. I am sure, that freedom in this sense sory education law. It is the stock is hedged about well-defined limitain trade of cheap politicians who tions. An American citizen is free thrive upon noise rather than logic. to go where he pleases and to do what Perhaps, reader, you have at times he pleases so long as, and only so used it yourself! Even so, let us long as, he pleases to abile by comcalmly consider it and try to dis- pulsory laws. Let him please to encover what it is really worth as an ter a house against the wishes of the argument. And if we find that there owner of the house, and he immediis no value in it, let us not hestate ately ceases to be a free man. Let to throw it aside as a valid objection him please to break another man's against compulsory education and head without just cause, and forthto brand as a weakling, a soprist, the with the relentless law snatches his politician who tries to impose it upon cherished freedom from him. Let him please to violate any law what-Now, of course, the word compul- soever, and the prison doors are open-

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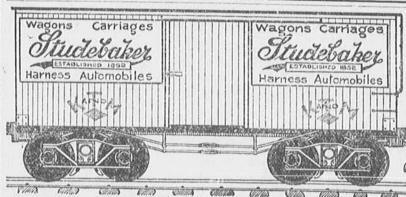
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